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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/619,647	07/14/2003	Donald K. Harper JR.	003A.0092.U1(US)	1264
29683	7590	02/17/2005	EXAMINER	
HARRINGTON & SMITH, LLP 4 RESEARCH DRIVE SHELTON, CT 06484-6212			GUSHI, ROSS N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 02/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Reply Brief Acknowledged

The reply brief filed 2/4/05 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ross Gushi whose telephone number is (571) 272-2005. If attempts to reach the examiner by phone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley, can be reached at 571-272-2800 extension 33. The phone number for the Group's facsimile is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

rng

**ROSS GUSHI
PRIMARY EXAMINER**





IFW/AF

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/619,647 Confirmation No.: 1264
Applicant(s): Harper, Jr.
Filed: 7/14/2003
Art Unit: 2833
Examiner: Gushi, Ross N.
Title: Electrical Contact Assembly With Insulative Carrier,
Stapled Contact Attachment and Fusible Element

Attorney Docket No.: 003A.0092.U1(US)
Customer No.: 29,683

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Reply Brief

Sir:

This is in reply to the Examiner's Answer mailed 12/6/2004.

In the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner makes reference to In re McLaughlin, 443 F.2d 1392, 170 USPQ 209 (CCPA 1971) as support for his conclusion that a proper obviousness analysis has been used. However, In re McLaughlin states "so long as it takes into account only knowledge which was within the level of ordinary skill at the time the claimed invention was made and does not include knowledge gleaned only from applicant's disclosure" (emphasis added). In the present case, the cited art does not disclose or suggest placing a fusible element on a deflectable portion of a contact. There is only a suggestion of placing a fusible element on a stationary portion of a contact. A person skilled in the art would normally not put a fusible element (solder ball) on the end of a movable section of a contact because there is an

Considered
2/14/05
MG